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**MINUTES OF LUCAS COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD**  
**Regular Meeting Held December 15, 2021**

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The regular meeting of the Lucas County Children Services Board was held at 705 Adams Street, 3:00 P.M. in person and via Zoom.

Members Present: Ms. Cowell, Ms. Gagnon, Ms. McCollough, Mr. Schinharl, Ms. Vasquez, Mr. Walrod,
Ms. Wilson

Member(s) Absent: Ms. Arnold, Ms. Easterly, Rev. Dr. Perryman, Mr. Ridi

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Ms. Vasquez called the December 15, 2021 regular meeting of the LCCS Board to order. Roll Call was taken. A quorum was present.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

Alexandra Davis – Caseworker – Training Unit  
Angie Duwve – Caseworker – Training Unit  
Rachel Eades – Caseworker – Training Unit  
Chanda Hamilton – Caseworker – Training Unit  
Nicole Knaggs – Caseworker – Training Unit  
Tracey Merrithew – Caseworker – Training Unit  
Dominick Springs – Caseworker – Training Unit  
Robert Stevens, II – Caseworker – Training Unit  
Brianna Taylor – Caseworker – Training Unit

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA AND OCTOBER 2021 LCCS BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Vasquez asked if there were any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Nothing was removed.

Ms. Vasquez read the Consent Agenda into the minutes:

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Minutes from 11/17/2021 LCCS Board of Trustees Meeting
- Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes ( 12/06/2021 )
- Finance Committee Meeting Minutes and additional finance documents attached ( 12/07/2021 )

Ms. Vasquez asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Cowell made a motion for approval. Mr. Walrod seconded. Ms. Vasquez asked those in favor of the motion to signify by stating aye, those opposed nay. Motion unanimously carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Strategic Plan**

Ms. Seed highlighted the two changes brought before the board last month.

First Strategy:

- Safely increase the proportion of children on open cases remaining in their family system.

Third Strategy:

- Developing a parent and kin training institute.

Leveraging Strategic Collaborations:

- We added a target area to host community events that would include outreaches and resource opportunities to families who are in need within our community.

Ms. Vasquez asked for a motion to approve the changes to the Strategic Plan for 2019-2023. Ms. Wilson made a motion for approval. Mr. Schinharl seconded. Ms. Vasquez asked those in favor of the motion to signify by stating aye, those opposed nay. Motion unanimously carried.

## **Opioid Settlement**

Ms. Cully updated the board that there is an additional settlement from Janssen. They would like a resolution to accept this settlement.

Ms. Vasquez read the Resolution into the minutes:

**DATE: December 15, 20201**

Resolution No. 10-2021

**TITLE: A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE MATERIAL TERMS OF THE JANSSEN SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT  
DATED JULY 21, 2021 PURSUANT TO THE ONE OHIO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY: Children Services Board of Lucas County

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING the Executive Director and Retained Counsel to accept the material terms of the Janssen Settlement Agreement pursuant to the One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding regarding the pursuit and use of potential opioid litigation settlement funds and consistent with the material terms of the July 21, 2021 Janssen Settlement Agreement available at <https://nationalopioidsettlement.com/>.

WHEREAS, the Children Services Board of Lucas County (herein "CSB") is an agency of Lucas County, county formed and organized pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Ohio and its communities have been harmed by misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance committed by certain entities within the Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through its Attorney General, and certain Local Governments and Agencies, through their elected representatives and counsel, are separately engaged in litigation seeking to hold Opioid Pharmaceutical Supply Chain Participants accountable for the damage caused by their misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, through its Governor and Attorney General, and its Local Governments and Agencies share a common desire to abate and alleviate the impacts of that misfeasance, nonfeasance and malfeasance throughout the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, the State and its Local Governments and Agencies, and CSB have drafted and previously adopted a One Ohio Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") relating to the allocation and the use of the proceeds of any potential settlements described; and

WHEREAS, a settlement proposal is being presented to the State of Ohio, Local Governments and Litigating Agencies by distributor Janssen to resolve governmental entity claims in the State of Ohio, consistent with the material terms of the July 21, 2021 Janssen Settlement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the One Ohio MOU would apply to the allocation and the use of proceeds resulting from the Janssen Settlement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, in order to agree to the Janssen Settlement Agreement, CSB must approve execution of the Settlement Participation Form, attached here as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, Board wishes to accept the material terms of the proposed Janssen Settlement Agreement (the "Proposed Settlement):

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD OF LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO.

Section 1. That the Children Services Board of Lucas County ("CSB") hereby accepts the Proposed Settlement pursuant to the terms of the One Ohio MOU.

Section 2. That the retained special counsel Zoll & Kranz LLC is hereby authorized to accept the Proposed Settlement pursuant to the terms of the One Ohio MOU on behalf of CSB via electronic signature.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of the Board relating to the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements.

**Action Taken:**

[LIST BOARD MEMBERS]

Abby Arnold

Suzette Cowell

Alethea Easterly

Rachel Gagnon

Johnetta McCollough

Rev. Dr. Perryman

Dan Ridi

John Schinharl

Kathy Vasquez

Jim Walrod

Laura Wilson

**Date: December 15, 2021**

## Resolution: No. 10-2021

### Title: A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE MATERIAL TERMS OF THE JANSSEN SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT DATED JULY 21, 2021 PURSUANT TO THE ONE OHIO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Ms. Vasquez asked for a motion to approve Resolution 10-2021. Ms. Wilson made a motion for approval. Ms. Gagnon seconded. Ms. Vasquez asked those in favor of the motion to signify by stating aye, those opposed nay. Motion unanimously carried.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

#### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

- A couple weeks ago, I attended the PCSAO Executive Membership Meeting with staff from the agency. The most expected was that the three people I was sitting with (Robin Reese, Donna Seed and Ebonie Jackson) are highly recognized as experts in their field in Ohio.
- I attended, as did Mr. Walrod, the building meeting and progress to date. It was further substantiation on the commitment on the part of the Port to go forward with what they are doing. Whatever happens, renovations are going to be a long time to have completed. I have asked Mr. Walrod to be a board member to future meetings and the board chair will also attend these meeting. There are clearly agency staff who know this building and will be very involved.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

##### **LCCS Child Placement Statistics**

|                          | Current Month | Previous Month |
|--------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Agency Foster Homes      | 304           | 297            |
| Subsidized Adoptions     | 1,210         | 1,207          |
| Purchased Boarding Homes | 153           | 133            |
| Institutions/Group Homes | 13            | 12             |
| Relative Placement       | 423           | 417            |

#### **DIRECTOR'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

As was stated last month Ohio as is the entire nation is experiencing a serious placement crisis for children and youth in foster care. Very simply put there are not enough placement resources. Our current situation in Ohio is that on any given day children are literally sleeping in the local child protection building. This month I had the opportunity as a trustee of our PCSAO to meet in Columbus with ODJFS Director Matt Damschroder to discuss the current crisis facing Child Protection in Ohio. He has requested data/demographics on who the children are adding to our current crisis.

The Ohio Public News station produced a three-part series on The Evolution of Ohio's Child Protection System. I was asked to participate and contribute to the series. The following is a link

Dec. 8 - Evolution of Ohio's Children Services System, Part 3:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/\\_https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001N6akjn4-EXbYHc1BIGBs1z5ycZobh5ORGT5crGAN\\_gNaHvhwF-RN\\_p6qvwvsZPrp6GXtgNBIGeVVB0JtiUuJcFaHTZC3PYMTmhoVrcksUF-kSBPHlcdN\\_iNJxV90mHvI531qifBj87H6Oilrpk-sxjC4S7GVIVxo97OR2X6\\_8dyzAdsDK8ijvo1nP4yBtbVSqI8vv89Z\\_A\\_FRnuqKEW4FvhJHuun1D6MjrsxnSi69Bf1GwzpXM54IQ\\_AQjzYsECIwqQ3OV-J\\_6qYoGs8otSs097AaqYS\\_kK&c=yF2KwIMFMGWECynjePfy-0pvPpNKdKgi86-L-HPJkUfwgZp74Izzeg==&ch=x3s5YufUCRmFBm6\\_Ze30CgldV4UookJa63WrXbv-](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001N6akjn4-EXbYHc1BIGBs1z5ycZobh5ORGT5crGAN_gNaHvhwF-RN_p6qvwvsZPrp6GXtgNBIGeVVB0JtiUuJcFaHTZC3PYMTmhoVrcksUF-kSBPHlcdN_iNJxV90mHvI531qifBj87H6Oilrpk-sxjC4S7GVIVxo97OR2X6_8dyzAdsDK8ijvo1nP4yBtbVSqI8vv89Z_A_FRnuqKEW4FvhJHuun1D6MjrsxnSi69Bf1GwzpXM54IQ_AQjzYsECIwqQ3OV-J_6qYoGs8otSs097AaqYS_kK&c=yF2KwIMFMGWECynjePfy-0pvPpNKdKgi86-L-HPJkUfwgZp74Izzeg==&ch=x3s5YufUCRmFBm6_Ze30CgldV4UookJa63WrXbv-)



[Oex9RILZln\\_RMA== ;!!HmFQeg!WLw4V2QDUDn5yl6Uf02FcA5UINob\\_0a7JJhLwVckWR2pfiS1YOJB2rtYu00b26zR\\$>](#) -

Public News Service In a system plagued by a history of disparities, Ohio's child-welfare workers and children's advocates say it is time to reimagine child protection.

Dec. 7 - Evolution of Ohio's Children Services System, Part 2: The

Present<[Public News Service As policymakers and child welfare leaders move to transform the foster-care system, advocates say there are misconceptions about the work going on. Susan Walther, director of Warren County Children Services, explained a majority of kids coming into care are from families struggling with everyday problems, compounded by the stress of making ends meet.](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001N6akjn4-EXbYHc1BIGBs1z5ycZobh5ORGT5crGAN_gNaHvhWf-RN_p6qvwvsZPrpWdLeFot3Nc1t9wajO-r3TioXtmC78jXKPyR_BBqtPuNW0jwQ5sta_T_Jfz3FTM4cDOrbQixJT-NnXrymS81uL1EjKnKDR5M43qHVHTfLn1eVP0oiiBmkFmLJIEvH8S4auSWb2Xbyed2IVbIY2jOYeC8pDTmtpXoYMmy9bNldmMlfiNjx3hYNPHkZldxP5O3dnkdwPnlnTcvJXAMhC7T6bKgLMY0JfvG3&c=yF2KwIMFMGWECynjePfy-0pvPpNKdKgj86-L-HPJkUfwgZp74lzzeg==&ch=x3s5YufUCRmFBm6_Ze30CgldV4UookJa63WrXbv-Oex9RILZln_RMA== ;!!HmFQeg!WLw4V2QDUDn5yl6Uf02FcA5UINob_0a7JJhLwVckWR2pfiS1YOJB2rtYu3vjp9mA$></a> -</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Dec. 6 - The Evolution of Ohio's Children Services System, Part 1:

History<[Public News Service Children Services is tasked with protecting the safety, well-being, and permanency of children and families, but some experts say it has not escaped its origins as a system that separates.](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001N6akjn4-EXbYHc1BIGBs1z5ycZobh5ORGT5crGAN_gNaHvhWf-RN_p6qvwvsZPrp4YQ8Hfu-ZaOcvFnRvZluWRRmICQ0DS3ixXrsqW8WHqDulByQxw3MMvzuMVqiPaAqXhpZluUVsgMelbm86mjAMYtI5J8VzX0gd1a5z0H97OgF5tKv6dSQCMO8r5qUdgkwscaF9dmR81Zi2LosqmykoJXnwkVdIEKDq6oTZYX72I2L8csU2cwEh9Y6pzRrU8B2VQZvitc-K-dxvQxz2d5qbmUovq_NfPv3&c=yF2KwIMFMGWECynjePfy-0pvPpNKdKgj86-L-HPJkUfwgZp74lzzeg==&ch=x3s5YufUCRmFBm6_Ze30CgldV4UookJa63WrXbv-Oex9RILZln_RMA== ;!!HmFQeg!WLw4V2QDUDn5yl6Uf02FcA5UINob_0a7JJhLwVckWR2pfiS1YOJB2rtYu_gizmVt$></a> -</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Participated in live interviews at WTOL channel 11 and FOX 36 for our Holiday Gift Drive.

Interview by Alexis Means 13abc this week to discuss the dangers of leaving young children home alone and on the rise of violence directed at children in our community.

### **OhioRise**

I continue to serve on the advisory council for OhioRise. This week Ohio Medicaid Director Maureen Corcoran addressed the group to discuss the just how groundbreaking OhioRise will be once it is fully implemented. She also gave us regards from Governor Mike DeWine.

### **Foster Home Recruitment**

We have a new 30-second commercial for foster care recruitment. It is airing in the Levis Commons, Fallen Timbers, and Franklin Park movie theaters, and it will also air locally in the coming weeks. We also have a spot to recruit caseworkers, and longer versions of both videos that will be posted to our website.

### **Family First/QRTP**

As you know we are a pilot county for the roll out of Family First Prevention Service Act in Ohio. As a result, we were notified this week that we will receive \$10,000 for our participation as a pilot county.

The state informed us last week that Ohio was granted a waiver that allows Children Services agencies to complete the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessments on our youth that have been identified as needing Qualified Residential Treatment Programs (QRTP). placements so we can obtain IV-E reimbursement. At LCCS, we have 5 staff that are now certified and several more taking the CANS training while it is being offered for free. We are also collaborating with our surrounding county child protection agencies to assist each other in completing the assessments, in addition to service providers that are trained. It is important for us to collaborate with others to maintain good relationships and also because we may experience a time that we have so many CANS assessments to do that our trained staff do not have time because of their other job duties.

## **Holiday Gift Drive**

We are in the midst of our annual holiday gift drive. This year's drive is going better than expected. So far, we've had a bike build, Shred for a Toy day at Burger King, a drive-through, drop-off event at WTOL that netted 6,000 toys, and iHeart Radio's Toy-a-thon outside Franklin Park Mall. Toy-a-thon went on in spite of 60-mile-an-hour winds. We've also received generous contributions from Genoa Bank, La-Z-Boy, Hylant, DANA, Owens Corning, Toledo Streets, Bridges and Harbor, several local women's groups, and many more. We also had nearly 30 families sponsored by businesses, groups, and individuals. We've received a lot of very positive media coverage and community support. If there are extra toys, some will be stored here for birthdays and other special occasions; others will be shared with other area helping agencies like the YWCA and Kitchen for the Poor.

## **Diversity/Equity and Inclusion (DEI)**

We are working closely with Casey Family Foundation Consultants in the Development of the *Big Picture* for the Department. We are Leveraging Community Partnerships with other private and government DEI departments. In addition, we are closely watching the movement of Ohio SB 322 and 327 and adding our opposing voice to the discussion.

This is contributed to the OCSS.

"Ohio House Bills 322 and 327 have been introduced, which would restrict the teaching of certain concepts and topics in K-16 classrooms. HB 322 primarily targets public schools and state agencies, but the Ohio Department of Higher Education would be included under the definition of state agency. This bill prohibits public entities from requiring discussion of current events and prohibits the teaching of a list of topics dealing with race, sex, slavery, and bias. It also targets history and civics courses, discouraging the discussion of current events, controversial issues, or activities that involve social or policy advocacy. Moreover, the legislation specifies that teachers cannot be required to teach anything that goes against their "sincerely held religious or philosophical convictions."

HB 327 is slightly different and more punitive than HB 322. The bill prohibits public schools, state agencies, colleges, and universities from offering teaching, instruction, or training on "divisive concepts" or accepting private funding to promote such concepts. Violations of the bill would result in the withholding of funding to school districts or State Share of Instruction to colleges and universities. The bill has a list of concepts related to race, sex, nationality, color, and ethnicity that it defines as divisive and therefore prohibited. It does say that divisive or controversial concepts can be taught if done so objectively and impartially, but who gets to determine what is objective and impartial is unclear."

## **DONATIONS/PARTNERSHIPS**

The LCCS diaper bank received a large contribution from a drive held by the Anthony Wayne Area Democratic Club, which resulted in 30 cases of Pullups and ten cases of diaper wipes, items not received from the Salvation Army.

For the second holiday season, Vision Ministries is providing each child served by LCCS 12 and older with a gift card. The church and its partners raised the value to \$50 for each gift card this year, resulting in a donation of \$11,000+.

For the second straight year, the employees at Owens Corning world headquarters held an internal gift drive, which resulted in more than 1,000 donations of toys, books, coats, and winter gear.

The France Stone Foundation awarded Friends of LCCS a \$10,000 grant for the LCCS playground, raising it to a \$275,000 project. LCCS received three deliveries of play equipment in November weighing more than two tons total.

## **IN THE MEDIA**

|                                       |                                                           |            |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| WTOL, wtol.com                        | National Adoption Month story, interview with Sherry Dunn | 11/11/2021 |
| <i>The Blade</i> ,<br>toledoblade.com | Port Authority looking to buy 705/705 Adams               | 11/18/2021 |
| WTOL, wtol.com                        | Toy Drive interview with Streets, Bridges & Harbor guy    | 11/18/2021 |
| The Truth                             | Zonta chapter honors LCCS Director Robin Reese            | 11/18/2021 |
| Toledo Parent                         | Christmas Tree Ship event, LCCS a recipient               | 11/26/2021 |
| <i>The Blade</i> ,<br>toledoblade.com | Teddy Bear Toss during Walleye game<br>(LCCS a recipient) | 11/27/2021 |



|                                                         |                                                                                                   |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| <i>The Blade</i> ,<br>Toledoblade.com                   | Barbara Hendel column, mentions Denise Greenblatt<br>and Olivia Vasaturo as CASA award recipients | 11/28/2021 |
| The Blade<br>Toledoblade.com<br>NBC-24, 13-abc,<br>WTOL | LCCS Community Bike Build<br>interviews with Kevin Milliken                                       | 11/28/2021 |
| WNWO, nbc24.com                                         | LCCS increase in children, decrease in foster homes<br>Interview with Sherry Dunn                 | 12/2/2021  |

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Ms. McCollough to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Ms. Wilson seconded the motion.

Roll Call was taken, and all members were present except for Ms. Arnold, Ms. Easterly, Rev. Dr. Perryman, and Mr. Ridi.

### **OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Ms. Wilson to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Schinharl seconded the motion.

Roll Call was taken, and all members were present except for Ms. Arnold, Ms. Easterly, Rev. Dr. Perryman, and Mr. Ridi.

Nothing coming out of this Executive Session.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Cowell.  
Seconded by Mr. Schinharl.  
Meeting is adjourned.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Respectfully submitted,



Ms. Kathy Vasquez, Board Chair